

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRIDGE 00860 291848Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-12 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SSO-00
NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /078 W
-----025753 291854Z /41

O R 291645Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5013
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO CNO
CSAF
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
NAVFAC ANTIGUA WI
ETR ANTIGUA WI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRIDGETOWN 0860

SECSTATE FOR ARA/CAR, SECDEF FOR ISA/FMRA

E.O. 1165":N/A

TAGS: MARR, AC, BB

SUBJ: MILITARY FACILITIES AGREEMENT WITH ANTIGUA OF DEC. 14,
1977

REF: NAVFAC ANTIGUA MESSAGE PR 251640Z MAR 78, STATE 75300

1. AS REPORTED IN REF NAVFAC MESSAGE, I OBTAINED WRITTEN
INSTRUCTIONS FROM PREMIER BIRD ON THE DISPOSITION TO BE
MADE OF THE RENTAL PAYMENT CHECKS FOR THE ANTIGUA MILITARY
FACILITIES. THE PREMIER EXPLAINED THAT DELIVERY IN
ANTIGUA IS REQUIRED BY CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS.

2. I ALSO MADE THE CHANGES IN THE AGREEMENT AUTHORIZED
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IN STATE 75300. IN THIS CONNECTION I VARIED FROM PARA
1(E) OF STATE REFTEL BECAUSE ORIGINAL COPY OF AGREEMENT
WAS MISDATED FEBRUARY 14, 1977 AND NOT SEPTEMBER 14, 1977.
I ALSO CHANGED THE DATE TO READ DECEMBER 14, 1977
INSTEAD OF DEC. 14, 1978 AS INSTRUCTED IN STATE REFTEL.

3. THE ANTIGUANS PREFER TO HAVE A VISITING CONSULAR

OFFICER FROM THIS POST BIND THE AGREEMENT AND ITS ANCILLARY DOCUMENTS TOGETHER WITH RED TAPE AND A SEAL. THEY APPEARED NERVOUS ABOUT SENDING THE DOCUMENTS TO WASHINGTON. I AM SURE WE EASILY COULD HANDLE SUCH AN OPERATION FROM THIS POST PROVIDED THE DEPARTMENT PERCEIVES NO OBJECTIONS.

4. I ADVISED THE PREMIER THAT THE WAYWARD CHECK FOR THE FIRST PAYMENT FOR THE NAVAL FACILITY WAS NOW VALID AND COULD BE CASHED, BUT THAT THE SUBSEQUENT REPLACEMENT CHECK WAS NOT VALID AND SHOULD BE RETURNED WHEN RECEIVED. I CONFIRMED THAT THE ORIGINAL CHECK HAD CARELESSLY BEEN PUT IN A 13 CENT FRANKED ENVELOPE AND SENT BY SURFACE MAIL. THIS INSOUCIANCE CAUSED THE MULTIPLE PROBLEMS WE HAVE SINCE FACED. SEA FREIGHT TAKES MONTHS IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD. I EXPECT THE NEW PROCEDURES WILL MAKE A REPETITION OF THESE UNDIGNIFIED AND SILLY SITUATIONS IMPOSSIBLE.

5. THESE ITEMS AND ANOTHER WHICH I REPORT SEPTEL WERE SOMEWHAT DELICATE TO HANDLE. I AM PLEASED TO SAY OUR RAPPORT WITH THE PREMIER AND HIS CLOSE ADVISORS IS SUCH THAT ALL WENT SMOOTHLY.

6. BY AIRGRAM I OFFICIALLY TRANSMIT ORIGINALS OF DOCUMENTS SIGNED.
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Message Attributes

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